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Statistical Commission

Report on the forty-seventh session

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Contents

Chapter		*Page*
I.	Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention	5
	A. Draft decision for adoption by the Council	5
	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-seventh session and the provisional agenda and dates for the forty-eighth session of the Commission	5
	B. Decisions brought to the attention of the Council	9
	47/101. Global indicator framework for the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	9
	47/102. High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	11
	47/103. Transformative agenda for official statistics	12
	47/104. Big data for official statistics	13
	47/105. National accounts	14
	47/106. Environmental-economic accounting	15
	47/107. International Comparison Programme	15
	47/108. International statistical classifications	16
	47/109. Industrial statistics	17
	47/110. Information and communications technology statistics	17
	47/111. Refugee statistics	18
	47/112. Climate change statistics	19
	47/113. Governance statistics	20
	47/114. Regional statistical development in Western Asia	21
	47/115. Programme questions (Statistics Division)	21
	47/116. Information items	22
II.	Items for discussion and decision	24
	A. Data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	24
	B. Transformative agenda for official statistics	25
	C. Big data for official statistics	26
	D. National accounts	26
	E. Environmental-economic accounting	27
	F. International Comparison Programme	27

G. International statistical classifications 28
H. Industrial statistics 28
I. Information and communications technology statistics 29
J. Refugee statistics 29
K. Climate change statistics 30
L. Governance statistics 30
M. Regional statistical development in Western Asia 31
III. Items for information 32
A. World Statistics Day 32
B. Demographic statistics 32
C. Gender statistics 32
D. Household surveys 32
E. Disability statistics 33
F. International trade and economic globalization statistics 33
G. Coordination of statistical programmes 33
H. Statistical capacity-building 33
I. Environment statistics 34
J. Culture statistics 34
K. Price statistics 34
L. Statistics for economies based on natural resources 34
M. Integration of statistical and geospatial information 34
N. Follow-up to the policy decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council 35
IV. Programme questions (Statistics Division) 36
V. Provisional agenda and dates for the forty-eighth session of the Commission 37
VI. Report of the Commission on its forty-seventh session 38
VII. Organization of the session 39
A. Opening and duration of the session 39
B. Attendance 39
C. Election of officers 39
D. Agenda and organization of work 39
E. Documentation 40

Chapter I

Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

A. Draft decision for adoption by the Council

1. The Statistical Commission recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-seventh session and the provisional agenda and dates for the forty-eighth session of the Commission

The Economic and Social Council:

(a) Takes note of the report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-seventh session;

(b) Decides that the forty-eighth session of the Commission shall be held in New York from 7 to 10 March 2017;

(c) Approves the provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-eighth session of the Commission, as set out below:

Provisional agenda for the forty-eighth session of the Commission

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

   Documentation

   Provisional agenda and annotations

   Note by the Secretariat on the provisional programme of work and timetable for the session
3. Demographic and social statistics:

   (a) Population and housing censuses;

   Documentation

   Report of the Secretary-General on demographic statistics

   (b) Health statistics;

   Documentation

   Report of the World Health Organization

   (c) Social statistics;

   Documentation

   Report of the Secretary-General

(d) Poverty statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

(e) Statistics of drugs and drug use;

Documentation

Report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

(f) Education statistics;

Documentation

Report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

(g) Household surveys.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the Intersecretariat Working Group on Household Surveys

4. Economic statistics:

(a) National accounts;

Documentation

Report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts

(b) Agricultural and rural statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

(c) Business registers;

Documentation

Report of the Wiesbaden Group on Business Registers

(d) Energy statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Oslo Group on Energy Statistics

(e) International trade and economic globalization statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Expert Group on International Trade and Economic Globalization Statistics

(f) Tourism statistics;

Documentation

Report of the World Tourism Organization

(g) Finance statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Finance Statistics

(h) International Comparison Programme;

Documentation

Report of the World Bank

(i) Informal sector statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Delhi Group on Informal Sector Statistics

(j) Short-term economic indicators;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

(k) Transformative agenda for official statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

5. Natural resources and environment statistics:

(a) Environmental-economic accounting;

Documentation

Report of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting

6. Activities not classified by field:

(a) Coordination of statistical programmes;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities

(b) Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

(c) Common open standards for the exchange and sharing of data and metadata;

Documentation

Report of the Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange sponsors

(d) Statistical capacity-building;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

Report of the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the Twenty-first Century and the World Bank

(e) Data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

Documentation

Report of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators

Report of the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Post-2015 Monitoring

(f) Follow-up to the policy decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

(g) National quality assurance frameworks;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

(h) Integration of statistical and geospatial information;

Documentation

Report of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information

(i) Big data;

Documentation

Report of the Global Working Group on Big Data for Official Statistics

(j) Regional statistical development in Europe;

Documentation

Report of the Economic Commission for Europe on regional statistical development in Europe

7. Programme questions (Statistics Division).

8. Provisional agenda and dates for the forty-ninth session of the Commission.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat containing the draft provisional agenda for the forty-ninth session of the Commission

Note by the Secretariat on the draft multi-year programme of work of the Commission

9. Report of the Commission on its forty-eighth session.

B. Decisions brought to the attention of the Council

2. The following decisions adopted by the Commission are brought to the attention of the Council.

47/101
Global indicator framework for the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Expressed its appreciation to the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators and its support for the report of the Expert Group,[1] congratulated the Group on its accomplishment and commended its country-led, open, inclusive and transparent process in developing the global indicator framework;

(b) Asked the Inter-Agency and Expert Group to continue to work with the same level of focus, determination and ambition, maintaining the same level of inclusiveness and transparency of the process so far;

(c) Agreed on the revised terms of reference of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group, as presented in annex I of its report;

(d) Agreed, as a practical starting point, with the proposed global indicator framework for the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[2] as reflected in the list of indicators presented in annex IV of the report, subject to future technical refinement;

(e) Requested the Inter-Agency and Expert Group to take into account the specific proposals for refinements of the indicators made by Member States during the discussion;

(f) Recognized that the development of a robust and high-quality indicator framework is a technical process that will need to continue over time, including by making use of expertise in other related expert processes, and requested the Inter-Agency and Expert Group to provide its proposals and a plan for reviews of the indicator framework to the Statistical Commission at its forty-eighth session;

(g) Agreed with the proposed programme of work of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group for the implementation of the global indicator framework, as described in section IV.B of the report, including in particular the establishment of the tier system for the indicators, to be discussed and agreed at the 3rd meeting of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group, to be held in Mexico City, and its proposed workplan for the coming year, as described in section IV.C of the report;

(h) Asked the Inter-Agency and Expert Group to report back to the Commission at its forty-eighth session on progress made in developing and improving the global indicators, especially on plans to develop methodologies for indicators in tier III, including for work on definitions and standards, to be agreed at the international level, with a view to guaranteeing international comparability;

[1] E/CN.3/2016/2/Rev.1.
[2] See General Assembly resolution 70/1.

(i) Emphasized that the global indicators proposed are intended for global follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and are not necessarily applicable to all national contexts, and that indicators for regional, national and subnational levels of monitoring will be developed at the regional and national levels;

(j) Emphasized that national ownership is key to achieving sustainable development and that national reviews are voluntary and country-led, will take into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and will respect policy space and priorities for all countries, including the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and other countries in special situations;

(k) Stressed that the implementation of the indicator framework will present a challenge in many countries and that appropriate efforts to strengthen national statistical capacities will need to be made, including by ensuring coordination between the Inter-Agency and Expert Group and the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (formerly the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Post-2015 Monitoring); also stressed, in accordance with resolution 2006/6 of the Economic and Social Council that capacity-building will be particularly important in developing countries, especially African countries, the least developed countries, the landlocked developing countries, the small island developing States and other countries in special situations;

(l) Agreed that the compilation of global indicators will be based to the greatest extent possible on comparable and standardized national official statistics provided by countries to the international statistical systems and that when other sources and methodologies are used, they will be reviewed and agreed by national statistical authorities and presented in a transparent manner;

(m) Agreed that coordination between national statistical systems and international organizations is important, including in order to ensure transparency and efficiency in reporting and avoid duplication, and that attention should be given to strengthening the reporting capacity of poorer countries;

(n) Agreed that improving data disaggregation is fundamental for the full implementation of the indicator framework and to fully reflect the principles of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda to ensure that no one is left behind, and stressed that efforts should be made to strengthen national capacities in that area and to develop the necessary statistical standards and tools, including by establishing a working group to work on data disaggregation as a subgroup of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group.

47/102
High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Expressed its appreciation to the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for its report[3] and the work conducted;

(b) Agreed in principle on the revised terms of reference of the High-level Group and asked the Bureau of the Statistical Commission to approve the final version, taking into account the comments received during the discussion, including the introduction of a member rotation system, as in the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators, and recommended, in particular, that the terms of reference more clearly indicate the role of the High-level Group as the United Nations focal point for coordinating with partnerships (and with other agencies of the United Nations system) in addressing data and statistical gaps pertaining to the Sustainable Development Goals;

(c) Expressed its appreciation to the Friends of the Chair group on broader measures of progress and agreed that the group has now completed its work;

(d) Welcomed the draft concept note for the organization of the United Nations World Forum on Sustainable Development Data and requested the High-level Group to finalize it in full consultation with all relevant stakeholders, in line with the synthesis report of the Secretary-General on the post-2015 agenda entitled "The road to dignity by 2030: ending poverty, transforming all lives and protecting the planet";[4]

(e) Noted the draft outline of the global action plan for sustainable development data, which will provide a road map for the modernization and strengthening of statistical systems for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[5] to be developed further in consultation with all relevant stakeholders and taking into account existing regional road maps, and welcomed the opportunity to comment on it by the deadline of 22 March 2016;

(f) Endorsed the proposal to establish a joint subgroup of the High-level Group and the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators tasked with developing a plan to address the immediate priorities, including statistical capacity-building and a financial framework for the implementation of the global Sustainable Development Goal indicators;

(g) Approved the proposed programme of work for the High-level Group and asked the group to report back to the Commission on its implementation at its forty-eighth session.

[3] E/CN.3/2016/3. Annex III of the report includes the revised terms of reference of the Group.
[4] A/69/700.
[5] See General Assembly resolution 70/1.

47/103
Transformative agenda for official statistics

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Welcomed the report of the Secretary-General on a transformative agenda for official statistics;[6]

(b) Reconfirmed the necessity to modernize and strengthen statistical systems, at the national, regional and global levels, built around standards-based architecture, taking into account national specificities, in order to respond more effectively and efficiently to the needs of emerging users, and in particular to address the data demand in relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[7] and related initiatives;

(c) Acknowledged the complementarity between the transformative agenda and various initiatives at national and regional level, in particular the good work done by the Economic Commission for Europe High-level Group for the Modernization of Official Statistics, and suggested that the cross-cutting nature of a limited set of thematic areas for the modernization of statistical systems be further promoted and contribute to the formulation of a global action plan prepared by the High-level Group for Partnerships, Coordination, and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

(d) Encouraged the completion of the series of regional conferences and the formulation of regional road maps for a transformative agenda through the moderation of the five thematic areas described in the report and by taking stock of existing programmes and activities for integrating and modernizing statistical systems in close consultation with member countries, regional commissions and agencies and other stakeholders, and by eventually mobilizing funds and sharing innovative technology, know-how and good practices;

(e) Recommended building upon the outcome of the "Friday seminar on emerging issues", held on 4 March 2016 on the theme "Towards better information systems for the 2030 Agenda", and related initiatives and programmes at the regional level, and emphasized that the transformation of statistical systems is more than a technical issue and therefore requests:

(i) High-level political commitment for access to and use of administrative sources, big data and geospatial information for statistical purposes through appropriate national legislative frameworks;

(ii) Partnerships with data providers and enhanced training of senior managers in handling the transformative processes based on a culture of performance and integrity;

(iii) Interregional collaboration in cross-cutting thematic areas by establishing global coordination mechanisms building on existing regional initiatives and programmes such as in the areas of integrated business statistics and modernization of statistical production processes;

[6] E/CN.3/2016/4.
[7] See General Assembly resolution 70/1.

(f) Requested a final report on the outcomes and recommendations from the regional conferences on a transformative agenda, to be submitted to the Statistical Commission at its forty-eighth session;

(g) Agreed that the progress of the High-level Group for the Modernization of Official Statistics be reported on regularly under this agenda item.

47/104
Big data for official statistics

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Expressed its appreciation for the report of the Global Working Group on Big Data for Official Statistics[8] and supported the outcome of the second International Conference on Big Data for Official Statistics held in Abu Dhabi in 2015;

(b) Agreed generally with the conclusions of the 2015 global survey on big data strategies and projects, especially regarding the need for training and more pilot projects with participation from developing countries;

(c) Expressed its support for the proposed priorities of the work programme of the Global Working Group and requested that the Group:

(i) Complete the package of initiatives to improve access to proprietary data, such as big data, including increased political support at the national and international level, improved legislation and fostering of mutually beneficial partnerships with the data owners, while considering and maintaining the confidentiality of data;

(ii) Develop training courses, in cooperation with the European Statistical Training Programme and the United Nations Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific and other training institutes and especially targeted at developing countries, on the topics of the processing and use of big data and of transparent methodologies and estimation methods for big data;

(iii) Undertake more pilot projects in the use of big data for official statistics, including those aimed at supporting the measurement of the Sustainable Development Goal indicators, and in this respect make use of the big data sandbox in Ireland;

(iv) Further develop the big data quality framework to ensure trust in the compiled official statistics;

(d) Requested that the following be added to the work programme:

(i) A review of web scraping of proprietary data;

(ii) Improvement of the Group website and the big data repository;

(iii) Advocacy of big data in developing countries;

(iv) Linking of the work of the Group to the work of the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; to the transformative agenda; and to the

[8] E/CN.3/2016/6.

work of the Economic Commission for Europe High-level Group for the Modernization of Official Statistics;

(e) Agreed that the national statistical offices play a key role in coordinating the use of big data for official statistics, a role that needs to be strengthened, especially if not regulated by existing laws governing official statistics.

47/105
National accounts

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Welcomed the report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts,[9] expressed its appreciation for the activities undertaken by the members of the Working Group, the regional commissions, other regional organizations and countries to facilitate the implementation of the *System of National Accounts 2008*[10] and supporting statistics, and endorsed the programme of work of the Working Group and the Advisory Expert Group on National Accounts for 2016;

(b) Expressed its appreciation for the progress made in resolving research issues related to the implementation of the *System of National Accounts 2008*, noted the emergence of some conceptual issues that extend beyond the *System of National Accounts 2008* and requested the Working Group to report to the Commission on progress in addressing those issues, taking into consideration the integration of economic, social and environmental statistics and frameworks for measuring progress on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[11]

(c) Expressed its appreciation for the guidance provided on issues emerging from the implementation of the *System of National Accounts 2008*, including the completion of several manuals, handbooks and guidelines that will facilitate its implementation and supporting statistics, and urged the Working Group to continue to give priority to practical guidance on issues that would facilitate the implementation of the *System of National Accounts 2008*;

(d) Welcomed the progress made in implementing the *System of National Accounts 2008*, expressed concern at the relatively low level of compliance with the minimum required data set and urged countries to develop basic source data for the compilation of national accounts that are policy-relevant and fit for purpose, and in this regard called upon the global and regional agencies to provide a focused, funded and coordinated programme on integrated household and business statistics, in support of the compilation of national accounts;

(e) Recognized the needs of countries, especially small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and least developed countries, for continued statistical capacity-building for the implementation of national accounts, based on an integrated statistics programme using multi-source and multi-mode statistics;

(f) Noted the progress of the Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange (SDMX) data transmission mechanism for national accounts, and recognized that

[9] E/CN.3/2016/7.
[10] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.08.XVII.29.
[11] See General Assembly resolution 70/11.

the implementation of the SDMX technology by countries will facilitate data transmission and thereby significantly reduce the response burden in submitting data to international organizations.

47/106
Environmental-economic accounting

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Expressed its appreciation for the work of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting in advocating the importance of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA), advancing its implementation and developing documents in support of its implementation;

(b) Requested that the Committee of Experts continue to contribute to the development of metadata for relevant Sustainable Development Goal indicators to ensure consistency with SEEA, and encouraged the Committee to support its implementation in countries;

(c) Noted the importance of developing and strengthening basic environment statistics to compile environmental-economic accounts;

(d) Noted also the importance of capacity-building in national accounts as an essential element for the compilation of environmental-economic accounts;

(e) Urged the Committee of Experts to scale up its implementation activities based on an updated implementation strategy, including developing in-depth courses on SEEA modules at the global, regional and national levels, finalizing core accounts and associated technical notes on selected SEEA modules and advancing the research agenda of the SEEA Central Framework and SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting;

(f) Agreed in principle with the implementation strategy, urged the Committee of Experts to finalize its work on coordination and partnerships at the global, regional and national levels to support the implementation, including the compilation of SEEA-coherent data based on existing international databases, and requested that the Committee of Experts take into account existing inter-agency mechanisms for coordination in its consideration of the establishment of an appropriate mechanism and also take into account the importance of the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics (FDES 2013) in order to provide source statistics for SEEA;

(g) Requested the Committee of Experts to finalize the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting for Energy (SEEA-Energy) and the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (SEEA-Agriculture) with urgency, given their importance for the implementation of energy accounts and agriculture, forest and fisheries accounts in support of the implementation of the SEEA Central Framework for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and encouraged their expedient implementation in countries.

47/107
International Comparison Programme

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Welcomed the final report of the Friends of the Chair group on the evaluation of the 2011 round of the International Comparison Programme[12] and expressed appreciation to the members of the group and the co-chairs for their work on the comprehensive evaluation of the 2011 round;

(b) Expressed its support for the recommendations of the Friends of the Chair group, contained in section V.A of the report, that the International Comparison Programme become a permanent element of the global statistical programme and that it be conducted at more frequent intervals;

(c) Agreed with the proposal to adopt a rolling benchmark approach of surveys to be spread over a three-year cycle, starting in 2017, which would allow flexibility in conducting the surveys according to the specific conditions of the participating countries, and supported the objective of producing results with the possibility of extrapolating the rolling survey data;

(d) Endorsed the strengthening of the governance structure of the International Comparison Programme, consisting of the Governing Board, the Inter-Agency Coordination Group and the Technical Advisory Task Force, to be established initially as proposed in the report, to ensure efficient functioning and balanced representation of countries and coordinating agencies in the governing bodies;

(e) Welcomed and supported the proposal to establish the Global Office as a permanent team at the World Bank, responsible for the global coordination, data validation and calculation of global results and related day-to day organizational activities;

(f) Agreed that for the 2017 cycle no major changes in the methodology should be introduced and that a research agenda, to be developed and undertaken by the Technical Advisory Task Force, should focus on methodological improvements to be considered for future comparison cycles;

(g) Emphasized the need to link the capacity-building activities of the International Comparison Programme with efforts to enhance statistical capacity for the monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals;

(h) Suggested exploring the closer alignment of International Comparison Programme price surveys with consumer price index compilation by countries and encouraged the involvement of existing working groups engaged in price statistics;

(i) Decided that the work of the Friends of the Chair group was completed with the submission of its final report.

[12] E/CN.3/2016/9.

47/108
International statistical classifications

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Welcomed the report of the Expert Group on International Statistical Classifications[13] and expressed its appreciation for the work of the Expert Group, its Bureau and the Statistics Division;

(b) Reconfirmed the role of the Expert Group as the central coordination body for current and future work on all international statistical classifications;

(c) Confirmed that the initiation of any international classification development by international agencies should be coordinated with the Expert Group;

(d) Endorsed the undertaking of a revision of the Classification of Individual Consumption according to Purpose;

(e) Endorsed the fifth revision of the Classification by Broad Economic Categories for use as an international statistical classification;

(f) Recognized the need of developing countries for technical assistance in the implementation of the current international statistical classifications.

47/109
Industrial statistics

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Welcomed the report of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization[14] and expressed its support for the work programme on industrial statistics contained in the report;

(b) Called upon developing countries to give high priority to industrial statistics, considering them as an essential data source for the compilation of macroeconomic statistics and other applications, including the Sustainable Development Goals;

(c) Requested international and regional organizations to continue and increase the technical assistance activities related to industrial statistics, such as for the implementation of the latest international recommendations, namely, the *International Recommendations for Industrial Statistics*[15] and the *International Recommendations for the Index of Industrial Production*,[16] and classifications, in a coordinated way, considering also specific country needs and preferences;

(d) Requested development partners to increase assistance for capacity-building programmes on industrial statistics in developing countries, especially in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals.

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[13] E/CN.3/2016/11.
[14] E/CN.3/2016/12.
[15] United Nations publications, Sales No. E.08.XVII.8.
[16] United Nations publications, Sales No. E.10.XVII.16.

47/110
Information and communications technology statistics

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Expressed its appreciation for the report of the Partnership on Measuring Information and Communications Technology for Development,[17] congratulated the Partnership on the excellent work done and expressed support for the continuation of its activities;

(b) Expressed its support for the recommendations made by the Partnership in its report, in particular with respect to a regular review of the core list of information and communications technology (ICT) indicators, the work on disaggregation of the use of ICT by gender, measuring international trade in ICT services and ICT-enabled services and national coordination of ICT statistics;

(c) Acknowledged the role of ICT as an enabler for achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and the ICT sector as a major provider of big data, and recommended in that context that the Partnership develop guidance to improve cooperation with the different stakeholders for the purpose of producing high-quality and timely ICT statistics and of leveraging the potential benefits of using big data for official statistics;

(d) Recommended that efforts be increased to strengthen the capacity of national statistical systems in producing ICT statistics;

(e) Requested that the Partnership report back to the Commission in 2018 with a review of the status of official ICT statistics and their integration into the monitoring framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

(f) Noted that the Partnership, created to support ICT statistics, may be a useful model for the organization of other partnerships, such as those that are anticipated to emerge in support of the United Nations World Forum on Sustainable Development Data, which will be organized taking into account the synthesis report of the Secretary-General entitled "The road to dignity by 2030: ending poverty, transforming all lives and protecting the planet",[18] under the leadership of the High-level Group on Partnerships, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

47/111
Refugee statistics

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Expressed its appreciation for the report on refugee statistics and internally displaced persons, submitted jointly by Statistics Norway, the Turkish Statistical Institute, Eurostat and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,[19] and commended the work undertaken by the group to

[17] E/CN.3/2016/13.
[18] A/69/700.
[19] E/CN.3/2016/14.

explore strategies to improve the compilation and dissemination of refugee and asylum statistics;

(b) Acknowledged the urgent need to build more efficient information systems against the backdrop of a rapidly growing volume of forcibly displaced persons owing to new humanitarian crises;

(c) Took note of the outcomes of the first international conference on refugee statistics, held in Antalya, Turkey, in 2015, at which participants examined various sources of information and addressed the importance of improving the comparability, quality and timeliness of refugee statistics;

(d) Endorsed the recommendation for the establishment of an expert group on refugee statistics, and requested that terms of reference for the group be prepared and submitted to the Bureau of the Statistical Commission for approval at its earliest convenience;

(e) Suggested that the expert group include internally displaced persons in its scope of work, take the users' perspectives into account, refine the statistical concept of refugees and build on existing technical work, such as the *Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration, Revision 1*,[20] and the Conference of European Statisticians Recommendations for the 2020 Censuses of Population and Housing;

(f) Requested that the expert group develop recommendations on refugee statistics, as a reference guide for national and international work concerning asylum statistics, and a refugee statistics compilers manual, as operational instructions on how to collect refugee statistics, in consultation with a wide range of stakeholders, including migration authorities and offices in charge of registration of displaced persons;

(g) Also requested that the expert group organize a technical meeting on refugee statistics in late 2016, as a follow-up to the first international conference on refugee statistics, to review the progress of the work conducted by the group, and took note of requests from several countries for membership of the group;

(h) Further requested that the expert group conduct a global consultation on the draft recommendations on refugee statistics early on in its existence to solicit comments widely and submit recommendations to the Commission for adoption at its forty-ninth session, in 2018.

47/112
Climate change statistics

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Welcomed the report of the Secretary-General, which summarizes the work done on climate change statistics;[21]

(b) Urged countries to develop and strengthen environment statistics, which are necessary for the effective monitoring of key aspects of climate change;

[20] United Nations publication, Sales No, E.98.XVII.14.
[21] E/CN.3/2016/15.

(c) Urged the international statistical community to expand its regional, subregional and national capacity-building efforts in climate change statistics, in line with the Paris Agreement, adopted by the parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in 2015, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[22]

(d) Recommended that countries use the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics (FDES 2013) to guide the development of climate change statistics and indicators, given the close interrelationship between environment statistics and climate change statistics;

(e) Noted the link between climate change and disaster reduction and requested that the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 be considered in the development of climate change statistics and indicators;

(f) Encouraged national statistical systems to invest adequate resources in the development of climate change statistics, in particular the underlying environment, energy, agriculture and industry statistics, and environmental-economic accounts that relate to the climate-economy interface and the physical flow accounts for greenhouse gas emissions;

(g) Urged the donor community to mobilize additional resources to enable capacity-building in environment and climate change statistics in developing countries;

(h) Expressed its appreciation for the work being undertaken by the European Commission for Europe task force on climate change-related statistics and indicators, in particular their efforts to develop a set of climate change-related statistics and indicators, and requested the Statistics Division to review and consider it as a basis for developing a global set of climate change statistics and indicators, applicable to countries at various stages of development;

(i) Requested that climate change statistics appear on the multi-year programme of the Statistical Commission with greater frequency and asked the Statistics Division to develop a workplan for submission to the Commission at its forty-eighth session.

47/113
Governance statistics

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Expressed its appreciation to the Praia Group on governance statistics for its report[23] and work conducted in an open, inclusive and transparent manner;

(b) Welcomed and expressed its support for the proposed road map and actions to be taken towards the development of a handbook on governance statistics for national statistical offices, stressed the importance of identifying best practices and developing common standards, and requested the Praia Group to report back to the Statistical Commission at its forty-ninth session, in 2018;

[22] See General Assembly resolution 70/1.
[23] E/CN.3/2016/16.

(c) Welcomed the support of the Praia Group for the relevant development of indicators for targets of Goal 16 of the Sustainable Development Goals;[24]

(d) Encouraged the Praia Group to promote the participation of all countries and to maintain an inclusive and transparent approach to their work;

(e) Encouraged the Praia Group to consider the road map and work derived from it in the report of the National Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on a road map to improve the quality and availability of crime statistics at the national and international levels,[25] presented to the Statistical Commission in 2013;

(f) Stressed the importance of capacity-building and training pertaining to governance statistics.

47/114
Regional statistical development in Western Asia

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Welcomed the report of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on the main achievements of statistical development in the region;[26]

(b) Expressed its appreciation for the work undertaken in the region over the past five years since the previous report, especially in regard to improved cooperation and coordination in statistical capacity development and training efforts, and in addressing requests from countries in the region;

(c) Noted the challenges faced by countries in the region, in particular in relation to the new data requirements for the development of Sustainable Development Goal indicators.

47/115
Programme questions (Statistics Division)

The Commission took note of the oral report presented by the Director of the Statistics Division concerning the current activities, plans and priorities of the Division. In particular, it took note of the proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2018-2019, as set out in an informal background document that had been circulated.

[24] See General Assembly resolution 70/1.
[25] E/CN.3/2013/11.
[26] E/CN.3/2016/17.

47/116
Information items

The Statistical Commission took note of the following reports:

Report of the Economic Commission for Europe High-level Group for the Modernization of Official Statistics[27]

Report of the World Bank on the International Comparison Programme interim activities[28]

Report of the Secretary-General on World Statistics Day[29]

Report of the Secretary-General on demographic statistics[30]

Report of the Secretary-General on gender statistics[31]

Report of the Secretary-General on the Intersecretariat Working Group on Household Surveys[32]

Report of the Secretary-General and the Washington Group on Disability Statistics[33]

Report of the Secretary-General on international trade and economic globalization statistics[34]

Report of the Inter-Agency Task Force on International Trade Statistics[35]

Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities[36]

Report of the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the Twenty-first Century and the World Bank[37]

Report of the Secretary-General on environment statistics[38]

Report of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics on culture statistics[39]

Report of the Ottawa Group on Price Indices[40]

Report of the Ulaanbaatar Group on statistics for economies based on natural resources[41]

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[27] E/CN.3/2016/5.
[28] E/CN.3/2016/10.
[29] E/CN.3/2016/18.
[30] E/CN.3/2016/19.
[31] E/CN.3/2016/20.
[32] E/CN.3/2016/21.
[33] E/CN.3/2016/22.
[34] E/CN.3/2016/23.
[35] E/CN.3/2016/24.
[36] E/CN.3/2016/25.
[37] E/CN.3/2016/26.
[38] E/CN.3/2016/27.
[39] E/CN.3/2016/28.
[40] E/CN.3/2016/29.
[41] E/CN.3/2016/30.

Report of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information[42]

Note by the Secretary-General on policy decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council that are relevant to the work of the Statistical Commission[43]

[42] E/CN.3/2016/31.
[43] E/CN.3/2016/32.

Chapter II
Items for discussion and decision

A. Data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

1. The Commission considered item 3 (a) of the agenda at its 1st, 2nd and 7th meetings, on 8 and 11 March 2016. At its 1st meeting, on 8 March, the Commission had before it the report of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (E/CN.3/2016/2/Rev.1) and the report of the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Post-2015 Monitoring (E/CN.3/2016/3). The Commission considered those reports in turn.

2. At the 1st meeting, on 8 March, the Commission heard a statement by the observer for the Philippines, who introduced the report of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators. Thereafter, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America, China, Cuba, Germany, the Russian Federation, Qatar (on behalf of States members of the Gulf Cooperation Council) and the Netherlands (on behalf of the European Union), as well as by the observers for Thailand (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Nauru (on behalf of small island developing States), Bangladesh (on behalf of the least developed countries), Zambia (on behalf of the landlocked developing countries), Colombia (on behalf of States members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States), the United Republic of Tanzania (on behalf of the States members of the Group of African States) and the Maldives (on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States).

3. At the 2nd meeting, on 8 March, statements were also made on the report by the representatives of Italy, Sweden, Barbados, Latvia, the Dominican Republic, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Japan, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand and Bulgaria, as well as by the observers for Mexico, Ecuador, India, Kyrgyzstan, Indonesia, Algeria, Switzerland, Canada, Cambodia, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Belarus, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Yemen, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Norway, France, Suriname and Mongolia.

4. At the same meeting, statements were also made on the same report by the observer for the State of Palestine (on behalf of the States members of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), speaking on behalf of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

5. Also at the 2nd meeting, the Chief of the Statistical Services Branch of the Statistics Division summarized the discussion.

6. At the same meeting, the Commission also heard a statement under item 3 (a) from the observer for Hungary, who introduced the report of the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Post-2015 Monitoring. Thereafter, statements were made by the representatives of the United States, Cuba, Japan, Sweden and the Dominican Republic and by the observers for the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Switzerland.

7. At the 2nd meeting, a statement was also made by the observer for FAO, speaking on behalf of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities.

8. At the same meeting, the Chief of the Statistical Services Branch of the Statistics Division summarized the discussion.

Action taken by the Commission

9. At its 7th meeting, on 11 March, the Commission had before it a draft decision contained in an informal paper introduced by the Rapporteur under item 3 (a) of the agenda. The Commission adopted the draft decision, as amended during the discussion (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/101 above). The Commission took no action on a draft resolution on that sub-item.

10. At the same meeting, and also under item 3 (a), the Commission had before it another draft decision also contained in an informal paper introduced by the Rapporteur, which the Commission also adopted, as amended during the discussion (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/102 above).

B. Transformative agenda for official statistics

11. The Commission considered item 3 (b) of the agenda at its 2nd, 3rd and 7th meetings, on 8, 9 and 11 March 2016. At its 2nd meeting, on 8 March, the Commission had before it a report of the Secretary-General on the transformative agenda for official statistics (E/CN.3/2016/4). It also had before it for information the report of the Economic Commission for Europe High-level Group for the Modernization of Official Statistics (E/CN.3/2016/5).

12. At the 2nd meeting, on 8 March, the Commission heard a statement by a representative of the Statistics Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, who introduced the report of the Secretary-General on the transformative agenda for official statistics. Thereafter, statements were made by the representatives of Brazil and the Netherlands and by the observer for Denmark.

13. At the 3rd meeting, on 9 March, statements were made by the representatives of Japan, Cuba, the United Kingdom and China and by the observers for Ireland, Suriname, Kuwait, Cabo Verde (on behalf of the States members of the Group of African States), Egypt (on behalf of the States members of ESCWA), Mongolia, Jordan, the Philippines, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Bangladesh, Timor-Leste, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Australia, Ecuador and Saudi Arabia.

14. At the same meeting, statements were also made by the observers for the European Commission (Eurostat), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the African Development Bank.

15. Also at the same meeting, the Chief of the Economic Statistics Branch of the Statistics Division summarized the discussion.

Action taken by the Commission

16. At its 7th meeting, on 11 March, the Commission had before it a draft decision contained in an informal paper introduced by the Rapporteur under item 3 (b) of the agenda. The Commission adopted the draft decision, as amended during the discussion (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/103).

C. Big data for official statistics

17. The Commission considered item 3 (c) of the agenda at its 3rd and 7th meetings, on 9 and 11 March 2016. At its 3rd meeting, on 9 March, the Commission had before it a report of the Global Working Group on Big Data for Official Statistics (E/CN.3/2016/6) and heard a statement by the observer for Australia, who introduced the report.

18. At the 3rd meeting, on 9 March, statements were also made by the representatives of the Republic of Korea, Germany, the United States, Cameroon, the Russian Federation, the Netherlands, Italy, Brazil, China, Latvia and Japan and by the observers for the Islamic Republic of Iran, Indonesia, Spain, Egypt, Denmark, France, Morocco, Armenia, Mexico, Malaysia, the Philippines, the United Republic of Tanzania and Portugal.

19. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the observer for FAO, speaking on behalf of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities.

20. Also at the same meeting, the Chief of the Trade Statistics Branch of the Statistics Division summarized the discussion.

Action taken by the Commission

21. At its 7th meeting, on 11 March, the Commission had before it a draft decision contained in an informal paper introduced by the Rapporteur under item 3 (c) of the agenda. The Commission adopted the draft decision, as amended during the discussion (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/104).

D. National accounts

22. The Commission considered item 3 (d) of the agenda at its 3rd, 4th and 7th meetings, on 9 and 11 March 2016. At its 3rd meeting, on 9 March, the Commission had before it a report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts (E/CN.3/2016/7) and heard a statement by the observer for the World Bank, who introduced the report.

23. At the 3rd meeting, on 9 March, statements were also made by the representatives of New Zealand, Germany, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Korea and Latvia and by the observers for the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Nigeria.

24. At the 4th meeting, on 9 March, statements were also made by the observers for Jamaica, Suriname, Egypt, the United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu (on behalf of the Pacific small island developing States), Belize, Indonesia, Cabo Verde, Morocco and the Philippines.

25. At the same meeting, the Chief of the Economic Statistics Branch of the Statistics Division summarized the discussion.

Action taken by the Commission

26. At its 7th meeting, on 11 March, the Commission had before it a draft decision contained in an informal paper introduced by the Rapporteur under item 3 (d) of the

agenda. The Commission adopted the draft decision (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/105).

E. Environmental-economic accounting

27. The Commission considered item 3 (e) of the agenda at its 4th and 7th meetings, on 9 and 11 March 2016. At its 4th meeting, on 9 March, the Commission had before it a report of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting (E/CN.3/2016/8) and heard a statement by the representative of the Netherlands, who introduced the report.

28. At the 4th meeting, on 9 March, statements were also made by the representatives of Brazil, Sweden, the Republic of Korea and the United States and by the observers for the Islamic Republic of Iran, Samoa (on behalf of the Pacific small island developing States), Switzerland, Morocco, Belize, Norway, Suriname, India and Myanmar.

29. At the same meeting, statements were also made by the observers for the European Union, the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and FAO.

30. At the same meeting, the Chief of the Economic Statistics Branch of the Statistics Division summarized the discussion.

Action taken by the Commission

31. At its 7th meeting, on 11 March, the Commission had before it a draft decision contained in an informal paper introduced by the Rapporteur under item 3 (e) of the agenda. The Commission adopted the draft decision, as amended during the discussion (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/106).

F. International Comparison Programme

32. The Commission considered item 3 (f) of the agenda at its 4th and 7th meetings, on 9 and 11 March 2016. At its 4th meeting, on 9 March, the Commission had before it the final report of the Friends of the Chair group on the evaluation of the 2011 round of the International Comparison Programme (E/CN.3/2016/9), and heard a statement by the observer for Austria, who introduced the report. The Commission also had before it for information under the item a report by the World Bank on the interim activities of the International Comparison Programme (E/CN.3/2016/10).

33. At the 4th meeting, on 9 March, statements were also made by the representatives of Germany, Japan, Barbados, China, Brazil and the Republic of Korea and by the observers for Switzerland, Suriname, the Federated States of Micronesia, Uganda (on behalf of the States members of the Group of African States), Indonesia, Denmark, Mexico, Poland, Egypt, Cabo Verde, Morocco and India.

34. At the same meeting, statements were also made by the observers for ECLAC, the Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Asian Development Bank, the World Bank and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), speaking also on behalf of Eurostat, the International Monetary Fund and ESCWA.

35. Also at the same meeting, the Chief of the Economic Statistics Branch of the Statistics Division summarized the discussion.

Action taken by the Commission

36. At its 7th meeting, on 11 March, the Commission had before it a draft decision contained in an informal paper introduced by the Rapporteur under item 3 (f) of the agenda. The Commission adopted the draft decision (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/107).

G. International statistical classifications

37. The Commission considered item 3 (g) of the agenda at its 4th, 5th and 7th meetings, on 9, 10 and 11 March 2016. At its 4th meeting, on 9 March, the Commission had before it a report of the Expert Group on International Statistical Classifications (E/CN.3/2016/11) and heard a statement by the representative of New Zealand, who introduced the report.

38. At the 4th meeting, on 9 March, statements were also made by the observers for the Islamic Republic of Iran and Samoa (on behalf of the Pacific small island developing States).

39. At the 5th meeting, on 10 March, statements were made on the same item by the representative of the Dominican Republic and by the observers for India, Indonesia, Cambodia and Gambia. Statements were also made by the observers for ECE and the European Commission (Eurostat).

40. At the same meeting, the Chief of the Industrial and Energy Statistics Section of the Statistics Division summarized the discussion.

Action taken by the Commission

41. At its 7th meeting, on 11 March, the Commission had before it a draft decision contained in an informal paper introduced by the Rapporteur under item 3 (g) of the agenda. The Commission adopted the draft decision (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/108).

H. Industrial statistics

42. The Commission considered item 3 (h) of the agenda at its 5th and 7th meetings, on 10 and 11 March 2016. At its 5th meeting, on 10 March, the Commission had before it a report of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) (E/CN.3/2016/12) and heard a statement by the observer for UNIDO, who introduced the report.

43. At the 5th meeting, on 10 March, statements were also made by the representatives of the Russian Federation, the United States and the Dominican Republic and by the observers for the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mongolia, Ukraine, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nigeria (on behalf of the States members of the Group of African States), Viet Nam, Suriname, Egypt and Timor-Leste.

44. At the same meeting, the Chief of the Industrial and Energy Statistics Section of the Statistics Division summarized the discussion.

Action taken by the Commission

45. At its 7th meeting, on 11 March, the Commission had before it a draft decision contained in an informal paper introduced by the Rapporteur under item 3 (h) of the agenda. The Commission adopted the draft decision (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/109).

I. Information and communications technology statistics

46. The Commission considered item 3 (i) of the agenda at its 5th and 7th meetings, on 10 and 11 March 2016. At its 5th meeting, on 10 March, the Commission had before it a report of the Partnership on Measuring Information and Communications Technology for Development (E/CN.3/2016/13) and heard a statement by the observer for the International Telecommunication Union, who introduced the report.

47. At the 5th meeting, on 10 March, statements were also made by the representatives of the Republic of Korea, the Dominican Republic, Sweden, the Russian Federation, Barbados, China and Latvia and by the observers for the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mexico, Haiti, Finland, South Africa, Morocco, the Philippines, Denmark, Egypt, Nigeria, the Sudan, Guatemala and Indonesia.

48. At the same meeting, the Chief of the Trade Statistics Branch of the Statistics Division summarized the discussion. Thereafter, a further statement was made by the observer for South Africa.

Action taken by the Commission

49. At its 7th meeting, on 11 March, the Commission had before it a draft decision contained in an informal paper introduced by the Rapporteur under item 3 (i) of the agenda. The Commission adopted the draft decision as orally amended during the discussion (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/110).

J. Refugee statistics

50. The Commission considered item 3 (j) of the agenda at its 5th and 7th meetings, on 10 and 11 March 2016. At its 5th meeting, on 10 March, the Commission had before it the report of Statistics Norway, the Turkish Statistical Institute, Eurostat and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the progress of the work on statistics on refugees and internally displaced persons (E/CN.3/2016/14). The Commission heard a statement by the observer for Norway, who introduced the report.

51. At the 5th meeting, on 10 March, statements were also made by the representatives of the United Kingdom, Sweden, the Russian Federation, Latvia and the United States and by the observers for the Islamic Republic of Iran, Azerbaijan, Cabo Verde, Mexico, India, Jordan, South Africa, Egypt, Suriname, Cambodia, Denmark, Austria, Ukraine, Ecuador and Armenia.

52. At the same meeting, statements were also made by the observers for the State of Palestine (on behalf of the States members of ESCWA), ECE, OECD, the

International Organization for Migration and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

53. Also at the same meeting, the Chief of the Demographic and Social Statistics Branch of the Statistics Division summarized the discussion.

Action taken by the Commission

54. At its 7th meeting on 11 March, the Commission had before it a draft decision contained in an informal paper introduced by the Rapporteur under item 3 (j) of the agenda. The Commission adopted the draft decision (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/111).

K. Climate change statistics

55. The Commission considered item 3 (k) of the agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 10 and 11 March 2016. At its 6th meeting, on 10 March, the Commission had before it a report of the Secretary-General on climate change statistics (E/CN.3/2016/15) and heard a statement by a representative of the Statistics Division, who introduced the report.

56. At the 6th meeting, on 10 March, statements were also made by the representatives of the Dominican Republic, Sweden, Togo, China, Cameroon, Italy and the Netherlands and by the observers for the United Republic of Tanzania, Ghana, Norway, Malaysia, El Salvador, Suriname, Morocco (on behalf of the States members of the Group of African States), Canada, Mongolia and Viet Nam.

57. At the same meeting, a statement was also made on the same item by the observer for ECE.

58. Also at the same meeting, the Chief of the Environment Statistics Section of the Statistics Division summarized the discussion.

Action taken by the Commission

59. At its 7th meeting, on 11 March, the Commission had before it a draft decision contained in an informal paper introduced by the Rapporteur under item 3 (k) of the agenda. The Commission adopted the draft decision, as orally amended during the discussion (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/112).

L. Governance statistics

60. The Commission considered item 3 (l) of the agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 10 and 11 March 2016. At its 6th meeting, on 10 March, the Commission had before it a report of the Praia Group on governance statistics (E/CN.3/2016/16) and heard a statement by the observer for Cabo Verde, who introduced the report.

61. At the 6th meeting, on 10 March, statements were also made by the representatives of the United Kingdom, Sweden, the United States and Japan and by the observers for Egypt, Mexico, Timor-Leste, Côte d'Ivoire (on behalf of the African Union), India, the Philippines, Ghana, Mongolia, Cambodia, Norway and Portugal.

62. At the same meeting, statements were made on the same item by the observers for the European Commission (Eurostat), the United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime and OHCHR.

63. Also at the same meeting, the Chief of the Statistical Services Branch of the Statistics Division summarized the discussion.

Action taken by the Commission

64. At its 7th meeting, on 11 March, the Commission had before it a draft decision contained in an informal paper introduced by the Rapporteur under item 3 (l) of the agenda. The Commission adopted the draft decision, as orally amended during the discussion (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/113).

M. Regional statistical development in Western Asia

65. The Commission considered item 3 (m) of the agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 10 and 11 March 2016. At its 6th meeting, on 10 March, the Commission had before it the report of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on the main achievements of statistical development in the region (E/CN.3/2016/17) and heard a statement by the observer for ESCWA, who introduced the report.

66. At the 6th meeting, on 10 March, statements were also made by the representative of Qatar and by the observers for Côte d'Ivoire (on behalf of the African Union) and Egypt. Statements were also made by the observers for the European Union and the Statistical Centre for the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf.

67. At the same meeting, the Chief of the Statistical Services Branch of the Statistics Division summarized the discussion.

Action taken by the Commission

68. At its 7th meeting, on 11 March, the Commission had before it a draft decision contained in an informal paper introduced by the Rapporteur under item 3 (m) of the agenda. The Commission adopted the draft decision (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/114).

Chapter III
Items for information

1. The Commission considered item 4 (sub-items (a) to (n)) of the agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 10 and 11 March 2016.

2. At the 6th meeting, a statement was made the observer for Mongolia.

A. World Statistics Day

Action taken by the Commission

3. The Commission considered item 4 (a) of the agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 10 and 11 March 2016. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General on World Statistics Day (E/CN.3/2016/18).

4. At its 7th meeting, on 11 March, the Commission took note of the report of the Secretary-General on World Statistics Day (E/CN.3/2016/18) (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/116).

B. Demographic statistics

Action taken by the Commission

5. The Commission considered item 4 (b) of the agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 10 and 11 March 2016. It had before it a report of the Secretary-General on demographic statistics (E/CN.3/2016/19).

6. At its 7th meeting, on 11 March, the Commission took note of the report of the Secretary-General on demographic statistics (E/CN.3/2016/19) (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/116).

C. Gender statistics

Action taken by the Commission

7. The Commission considered item 4 (c) of the agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 10 and 11 March 2016. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General on gender statistics (E/CN.3/2016/20).

8. At its 7th meeting, on 11 March, the Commission took note of the report of the Secretary-General on gender statistics (E/CN.3/2016/20) (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/116).

D. Household surveys

Action taken by the Commission

9. The Commission considered item 4 (d) of the agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 10 and 11 March 2016. It had before it a report of the Secretary-General on the Intersecretariat Working Group on Household Surveys (E/CN.3/2016/21).

10. At its 7th meeting, on 11 March, the Commission took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the Intersecretariat Working Group on Household Surveys (E/CN.3/2016/21) (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/116).

E. Disability statistics

Action taken by the Commission

11. The Commission considered item 4 (e) of the agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 10 and 11 March 2016. It had before it a report of the Secretary-General and the Washington Group on disability statistics (E/CN.3/2016/22).

12. At its 7th meeting, on 11 March, the Commission took note of the report of the Secretary-General and the Washington Group on disability statistics (E/CN.3/2016/22) (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/116).

F. International trade and economic globalization statistics

Action taken by the Commission

13. The Commission considered item 4 (f) of the agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 10 and 11 March 2016. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General on international trade and economic globalization statistics (E/CN.3/2016/23) and the report of the Inter-Agency Task Force on International Trade Statistics (E/CN.3/2016/24).

14. At its 7th meeting, on 11 March, the Commission took note of the report of the Secretary-General on international trade and economic globalization statistics (E/CN.3/2016/23) and the report of the Inter-Agency Task Force on International Trade Statistics (E/CN.3/2016/24) (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/116).

G. Coordination of statistical programmes

Action taken by the Commission

15. The Commission considered item 4 (g) of the agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 10 and 11 March 2016. It had before it a report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities (E/CN.3/2016/25).

16. At its 7th meeting, on 11 March, the Commission took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities (E/CN.3/2016/25) (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/116).

H. Statistical capacity-building

Action taken by the Commission

17. The Commission considered item 4 (h) of the agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 10 and 11 March 2016. It had before it a report of the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the Twenty-first Century and the World Bank on

selected efforts to support statistical development in member States (E/CN.3/2016/26).

18. At its 7th meeting, on 11 March, the Commission took note of the report of the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the Twenty-first Century and the World Bank on selected efforts to support statistical development in member States (E/CN.3/2016/26) (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/116).

I. Environment statistics

Action taken by the Commission

19. The Commission considered item 4 (i) of the agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 10 and 11 March 2016. It had before it a report of the Secretary-General on environment statistics (E/CN.3/2016/27).

20. At its 7th meeting, on 11 March, the Commission took note of the report of the Secretary-General on environment statistics (E/CN.3/2016/27) (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/116).

J. Culture statistics

Action taken by the Commission

21. The Commission considered item 4 (j) of the agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 10 and 11 March 2016. It had before it a report of the Institute for Statistics of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on selected activities of its culture statistics programme (E/CN.3/2016/28).

22. At its 7th meeting, on 11 March, the Commission took note of the report of the Institute for Statistics of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on selected activities of its culture statistics programme (E/CN.3/2016/28) (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/116).

K. Price statistics

Action taken by the Commission

23. The Commission considered item 4 (k) of the agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 10 and 11 March 2016. It had before it a report of the Ottawa Group on Price Indices (E/CN.3/2016/29).

24. At its 7th meeting, on 11 March, the Commission took note of the report of the Ottawa Group on Price Indices (E/CN.3/2016/29) (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/116).

L. Statistics for economies based on natural resources

Action taken by the Commission

25. The Commission considered item 4 (l) of the agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 10 and 11 March 2016. It had before it a report of the Ulaanbaatar Group on Statistics for Economies Based on Natural Resources (E/CN.3/2016/30).

26. At its 7th meeting, on 11 March, the Commission took note of the report of the Ulaanbaatar Group on Statistics for Economies Based on Natural Resources (E/CN.3/2016/30) (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/116).

M. Integration of statistical and geospatial information

Action taken by the Commission

27. The Commission considered item 4 (m) of the agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 10 and 11 March 2016. It had before it a report of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information (E/CN.3/2016/31).

28. At its 7th meeting, on 11 March, the Commission took note of the report of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information (E/CN.3/2016/31) (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/116).

N. Follow-up to the policy decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council

Action taken by the Commission

29. The Commission considered item 4 (n) of the agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 10 and 11 March 2016. It had before it a note by the Secretary-General on the policy decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council that are relevant to the work of the Statistical Commission (E/CN.3/2016/32).

30. At its 7th meeting, on 11 March, the Commission took note of the note by the Secretary-General on the policy decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council that are relevant to the work of the Statistical Commission (E/CN.3/2016/32) (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/116).

Chapter IV
Programme questions (Statistics Division)

1. The Commission considered item 5 of the agenda at its 7th meeting, on 11 March 2016, and, in that context, heard an oral report by the Director of the Statistics Division of the Department for Economic and Social Affairs concerning the current activities, plans and priorities of the Division.

Action taken by the Commission

2. At the 7th meeting, the Commission took note of the oral report presented by the Director of the Statistics Division concerning the current activities, plans and priorities of the Division. In particular, the Commission took note of the proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2018-2019, as set out in an informal background document that had been circulated (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/115).

Chapter V

Provisional agenda and dates for the forty-eighth session of the Commission

1. The Commission considered item 6 of the agenda at its 7th meeting, on 11 March 2016. It had before it the following documents, which were introduced by a representative of the Statistical Services Branch of the Statistics Division:

(a) Note by the Secretariat on the draft provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-eighth session of the Commission (E/CN.3/2016/L.2);

(b) Note by the Secretariat on the draft multi-year programme of work of the Statistical Commission 2016-2020 (E/CN.3/2016/33).

Action taken by the Commission

2. At its 7th meeting, on 11 March, the Commission approved the draft provisional agenda for its forty-eighth session, as outlined in document E/CN.3/2016/L.2, and entrusted the Bureau with streamlining and finalizing it. The Commission also decided to recommend it to the Economic and Social Council for approval (see chap. I, sect. A).

3. At the same meeting, the Commission decided to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that its forty-eighth session be held from 7 to 10 March 2017 (see chap. I, sect. A).

4. Also at its 7th meeting, the Commission approved its draft multi-year programme of work for 2016-2020 (E/CN.3/2016/33).

Chapter VI
Report of the Commission on its forty-seventh session

1. The Commission considered item 7 of the agenda at its 7th meeting, on 11 March 2016.

2. The Rapporteur introduced the draft report of the Commission on its forty-seventh session (E/CN.3/2016/L.3), together with an informal paper containing draft decisions.

3. At the same meeting, statements were made on the text of the draft decisions by the representatives of New Zealand, China, Barbados, Cuba, the Russian Federation, Japan, the United States, the United Kingdom and the Netherlands and by the observers for India, Turkey, Uganda, Botswana, Mexico (on behalf of the States members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean states), Belarus, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Nigeria, Indonesia, Myanmar, Algeria, Suriname, Egypt, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Ecuador, Samoa (on behalf of the small island developing States), South Africa, the United Republic of Tanzania, Switzerland, Bangladesh and Côte d'Ivoire.

4. At the same meeting, statements were also made on the text of the draft decisions by the observers for the State of Palestine, the European Commission (Eurostat) and the Caribbean Community.

5. The Director of the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs summarized the discussion.

Action taken by the Commission

6. At its 7th meeting, on 11 March, the Commission adopted the draft report on its forty-seventh session, including the draft decisions contained therein, as orally revised, and entrusted the Rapporteur with streamlining and finalizing it. Following the adoption of the draft report, the Chair made a statement.

Chapter VII
Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Statistical Commission held its forty-seventh session at United Nations Headquarters from 8 to 11 March 2016. The Commission held seven meetings.

B. Attendance

2. The session was attended by the representatives of the 24 States members of the Commission. Also in attendance were observers for other States Members of the United Nations and for non-Member States, representatives of United Nations system organizations and observers for intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations. A list of participants is contained in document E/CN.3/2016/INF/1.

C. Election of officers

3. At its 1st meeting, on 8 March, the Commission elected the following officers by acclamation:

Chair:
Wasmália Barata Bivar (Brazil)

Vice-Chairs:
Zachary Mwangi Chege (Kenya)
Gyeongjoon Yoo (Republic of Korea)
John Pullinger (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

Rapporteur:
Aija Zigure (Latvia)

D. Agenda and organization of work

4. At its 1st meeting, on 8 March, the Commission adopted its provisional agenda, as contained in document E/CN.3/2016/1. The agenda read as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Items for discussion and decision:
   (a) Data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
   (b) Transformative agenda for official statistics;
   (c) Big data for official statistics;
   (d) National accounts;
   (e) Environmental-economic accounting;
   (f) International Comparison Programme;
   (g) International statistical classifications;
   (h) Industrial statistics;

(i) Information and communications technology statistics;

(j) Refugee statistics;

(k) Climate change statistics;

(l) Governance statistics;

(m) Regional statistical development in western Asia.

4. Items for information:

(a) World Statistics Day;

(b) Demographic statistics;

(c) Gender statistics;

(d) Household surveys;

(e) Disability statistics;

(f) International trade and economic globalization statistics;

(g) Coordination of statistical programmes;

(h) Statistical capacity-building;

(i) Environment statistics;

(j) Culture statistics;

(k) Price statistics;

(l) Statistics for economies based on natural resources;

(m) Integration of statistical and geospatial information;

(n) Follow-up to the policy decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council.

5. Programme questions (Statistics Division).

6. Provisional agenda and dates for the forty-eighth session of the Commission.

7. Report of the Commission on its forty-seventh session.

5. At the same meeting, the Commission approved the provisional programme of work and timetable of the session (E/CN.3/2016/L.1).

6. Also at its 1st meeting, the Commission invited the following organizations to participate as observers at its forty-seventh session: the Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistics; the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa; the Eastern Africa Statistical Training Centre; the European Free Trade Association; and the Observatoire économique et statistique d'Afrique subsaharienne.

E. Documentation

7. The documents before the Commission at its forty-seventh session are available from http://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/47th-session.

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